

we can avoid responding by crisis and having people in places that maybe would help us to ensure that the crisis doesn't take place.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

Mr. CARPER. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I would be happy to yield.

Mr. CARPER. Would the chairman tell us again the name of the ambassador nominated by the President to be Ambassador to Guatemala?

Mr. MENENDEZ. The gentleman who is nominated, a career nominee to be the Ambassador to Guatemala is Todd D. Robinson.

Mr. CARPER. I would say to my colleagues, as chairman of the homeland security committee, I have been down to a number of Central American countries—Mexico, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador. If there is anybody that needs a U.S. ambassador down there, it is Guatemala. We see all these young people, not so young people, coming to this country, trying to get in this country. The reason they are coming up here is there is no hope—no economic hope, crime, lack of opportunity—and we have no ambassador there. We haven't had an ambassador there for months.

I would just make a plea for the chairman to make a unanimous consent if only for the Ambassador to Guatemala. And I would just plead with my colleague, my friend from Wyoming, not to object.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I say to my distinguished colleague from Delaware that I already included the Ambassador to Guatemala in my list and there was objection. If the Senator from Wyoming, who I believe is not doing this in his own course but on behalf of his leadership, has an indication that he would accept that, I would be happy to do it; otherwise, I think we would further not be able to achieve it.

Mr. CARPER. I would ask, would the Senator one more time make the unanimous consent request for Todd Robinson.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 958, Todd D. Robinson to be the Ambassador to Guatemala; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table; that no intervening action or debate or further motions be in order to that nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. We have been through this nomination and the others before. There is a procedure that was set up

that is recognized now by both sides but that our side feels forced into because of the nuclear option where the other side broke the rules in order to change the rules. And the way that works, the majority leader is still the one that has every power within this body—except the Congressional Review Act—and he hasn't chosen to bring these up in the normal order, instead asking to bring them up en bloc.

My college roommate was a career ambassador, and I helped him get assignments and brought a lot of people through en bloc at the same time. But that was before we had the nuclear option.

So on that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I will close on this. Look, the reality is that if each of these ambassadors was going to be brought up and had to go through cloture and go through the whole process of time or the debate time that would be attributed to each one of them, we would spend the rest of this congressional session doing exactly that. That would not help our national security interests in terms of getting these people in place.

I want to get these people in place. I have limited the requests to countries that have career individuals and to countries that also are critical for our national security. I just hope that, in the national interest of the United States, we can come to a better position at some other time.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF JILL A. PRYOR TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked on the Pryor nomination, the Chair directs the clerk to report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jill A. Pryor, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, reserving the right to object, would the Senator from Wyoming consider modifying that request to include me to follow on, following his remarks?

Mr. ENZI. Certainly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Senator RUBIO has been waiting all day to offer a unanimous consent request on a bill he has. I ask unanimous consent that the 2 minutes that Senator RUBIO would like to have be available between Senator ENZI and Senator MERKLEY.

Mr. MERKLEY. I have absolutely no objection to that.

Mr. ENZI. I revise my unanimous consent request for my speech, then Senator RUBIO for 2 minutes, then Senator MERKLEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I will be very brief. I want to join Senator RUBIO, if I can have 2 minutes as well, before going to Senator MERKLEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the modified request is agreed to.

The Senator from Wyoming.

RETIREMENT OF ROBIN BAILEY

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, the speech I need to give now is not one of my favorite speeches. It is a very important speech.

There is an old saying we have all heard before: Good help is hard to find. Here is my experience: Good help is not only hard to find, it is almost impossible to replace. Those words have come to my mind quite often in the days since my State director Robin Bailey told us she had decided to retire.

As we began our search for a new State director, it soon became apparent that you can't replace Robin Bailey.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: